Etchingham Barn Owls Pre-school



Etchingham Primary School and Nursery, Parsonage Croft, Etchingham, East Sussex, TN19 7BY

Inspection date	20 May 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and m	nanagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asse	essment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	d welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff interact skilfully with children. For example, they make good use of questioning to help children express their ideas and develop their communication skills.
- Children enjoy playing with an excellent range of stimulating and challenging resources. They become thoroughly absorbed in chosen activities that reflect their interests.
- Staff observe and assess children's progress carefully. They identify learning priorities and focus well on meeting children's individual needs. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Parents and staff exchange helpful information about what children are learning at home and in the setting. They work successfully together to extend children's learning.
- Children are confident and independent. They form strong friendships and have a good understanding of the need to take turns.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager and staff effectively monitor individual children's development but do not consistently review the progress of different groups of children to more precisely identify and address emerging gaps in their learning.
- The organisation of daily routines does not always support children to follow their interests with as little disruption as possible, to help them sustain concentration fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- extend the successful monitoring of children's progress to include the consistent review of the progress of groups of children in order to focus more precisely on identifying and tackling any emerging gaps in their learning
- review the organisation of the routines of the day to make sure that it supports children to follow their interests with as little disruption as possible, to help them sustain concentration fully.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector held meetings with the leadership team and spoke to staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and from written feedback.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team places a high priority on keeping children safe. They carry out thorough recruitment and induction procedures that help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff have an up-to-date knowledge of how to deal with child protection concerns. The leadership team places a strong emphasis on helping staff improve their already good knowledge and teaching skills. The staff team is very reflective and keen to improve children's learning experiences. For example, they make good use of new ideas gained on training courses to develop children's already strong mathematical skills still further. Staff adapt the environment successfully to meet children's changing needs and interests.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff get to know children well. They work closely with other settings to provide continuity in children's learning. Staff understand how children learn and provide plenty of opportunities for them to explore and investigate. They build on children's skills well. Children show increasing ability to solve problems independently. For example, they work out how to fix pipes and guttering together so that water flows down easily. They persevere at the task and have the confidence to keep trying. Staff are nearby to give encouragement and contribute ideas when needed yet allow children to take the lead.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are caring and friendly and they are good role models. Children form strong emotional bonds with them. Children settle quickly and show a strong sense of belonging. They move around safely, making choices and decisions about their play. They eagerly take on responsibilities, such as helping staff prepare snacks for their friends. Children show a good awareness of safety, for example, when they talk about how to use toy tools safely and cut up fruit for snacks. They are keen to play outside and have fun, splashing in pools of water for example. They develop good coordination and physical control through a variety of activities, such as exploring the stimulating and interesting outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff prepare children well for moving on to school. Children develop good social skills. They learn to respect and be kind to others. They relate well to adults and confidently approach them for help when needed. Children are good communicators and listen well. They concentrate well and have a positive attitude to new experiences. Children are keen to have a go and happily join in activities with others. They develop strong early reading and writing skills. For example, they enthusiastically and correctly call out words and names that begin with a chosen letter.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY485494

Local authority East Sussex

Inspection number 1006616

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 39

Name of registered person Etchingham Under Fives Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP910756

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 01580 819 218

Etchingham Barn Owls Pre-School registered in 2015 at the current premises but has been operating since 1974. It operates from Etchingham Primary School, Etchingham, East Sussex. The group opens every weekday from 8.45am to 3.15pm during school term times. The group is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The group employs five staff. There are two staff, including the manager, who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two staff who have a qualification at level 2. One member of staff has a qualification at level 7.

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